

# The Democratic Banner.

ESTABLISHED 1836

MT. VERNON, O., FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1910—No. 26

PRICE TWO CENTS

## SIX GRAFTERS ARE INDICTED

As The Outcome Of The Probing By The Grand Jury

Prominent Columbus Men in Toils.

ALSO STATE EMPLOYES

Are Charged With Bribery and Defrauding State.

RUGGLES-GALE COMPANY HIT

From Small Beginning the Graft Probers Unearthed Scandal Which Threatens to Involve County Officials Throughout Central Ohio—Former Probate Judge Gale Testified Against Own Concern.

Columbus, O., March 31.—The grand jury which has been investigating the charges of grafting in the statehouse and Franklin county courthouse returned indictments against six men, all either officers or former employees of the Ruggles-Gale company or formerly connected with public offices. In its report the grand jury apologized for the small number of indictments by saying lack of time prevented a more complete investigation of the charges, but that there is plenty of material left for future investigation. It said that the indictment of the six men on 49 counts was just the beginning.

All the counts are for grafting in the various forms of presenting false vouchers, bribery, accepting bribes, obtaining money under false pretenses, etc. In receiving the report Judge Rogers complimented the grand jury on its work, saying that it would result in the purification of city, county and state.

Those indicted will not be arraigned until the opening of the next term of court, April 18.

Witnesses Under Bond.

The grand jury also recommended that the following be retained as witnesses against those indicted: W. E. Knoderer, A. F. Haines, Charles Brown, Matthew A. Birkenbach, Matilda Schlerette, Maude Platt, William G. Price and Charles Hildebrand, all former employees of the Ruggles-Gale company. The bonds of these witnesses were fixed: Brown and Hildebrand, \$500 each; Birkenbach, Knoderer, Price, Miss Platt and Miss Schlerette, \$200 each. No bond was fixed for Haines.

All of those indicted are well-known men. John T. Gale is a former probate judge of Franklin county. After he retired from office he identified himself with the company, which afterward became the Ruggles-Gale company. A few years ago an internal scandal disrupted the Ruggles-Gale company and George L. Ruggles retired.

Shortly after that John McCafferty retired as county clerk and he and James Ross, former county sheriff and present Democratic leader, bought a controlling interest in the Ruggles-Gale company. Ruggles was already out and the new men soon crowded Gale out.

For two years Gale quietly nursed his resentment and suddenly showed up at the annual meeting of the stockholders with the majority of the stock. He then ousted Ross and McCafferty and reorganized the company to suit himself, returning to its presidency and general management. Gale appeared as a voluntary witness before the state graft probers while the investigation of the state

### THOSE INDICTED.

George Wood, former stationery clerk in secretary of state's office.

John T. Gale, former probate judge and president of the Ruggles-Gale company.

John McCafferty, former county clerk and member of the Ruggles-Gale company.

George L. Ruggles, former senior partner of Ruggles-Gale company.

John T. Paine, former salesman of Ruggles-Gale company.

Harry E. King of Cleveland, formerly clerk of the state railway commission.

Printer's office was under investigation and gave much information on which the present indictments are based. He was not given an immunity bath.

### Paine Is Immune.

John D. Paine for several years was salesman for the Ruggles-Gale company, and confined his business largely to the state departments. He has lived in Detroit for several months. He is immune from criminal prosecution, having been given the "immunity bath" when he testified before the Beatty graft probers. It is planned to nolle the indictments against him.

McCafferty appeared at the courthouse and was released on bond signed by his brother, Dr. Frank McCafferty, and James Ross. The bond of Gale was fixed at \$5,000; Ruggles at \$10,000; McCafferty at \$5,000 and Wood at \$3,000. All furnished bond.

### THREATENS TO SPREAD

No Telling Where State and County Graft Scandal Will End.

Columbus, O., March 31.—There will be an investigation of the indictment by the state graft probers committee before the close of the legislative session, but there will probably not be sufficient time to go into the state hospital allegations this spring. The committee has been given information which, if it can be proved, will provide one of the biggest stories of grafting in the history of the state. Not only are former officials of Franklin county involved, but also officials of probably 25 other counties in the state. This information was collected while a representative of the committee was following a clue given by the fact that Goodman Brothers had made numerous sales of jewelry to Mark Slater, former supervisor of public printing. Though it was shown that these sales were in every way regular, the trail was followed until finally it was found that while state officials could not be connected, there were many cases of purchases for county officials in other stores which might stand investigation.

It was shown before the committee that D. S. Creamer, now state treasurer, but former state fire marshal, had while he was in the latter office not only charged up to the state the expenses of his frequent trips to and from his home in St. Clairsville, but also that he had permitted his first deputy, John P. Brennan, whose home was in Urbana, to charge up his expenses in traveling between Columbus and his home. Another interesting feature of the examination of Creamer by Senator Deaton was an attempt to show that Creamer had used state funds to print records in furtherance of his campaign for the Democratic nomination for state treasurer.

### Discovers New Hippopotamus.

Washington, March 31.—A new species of hippopotamus was discovered by Colonel Roosevelt, according to an announcement made by Gerrit S. Miller, curator of the division of mammals, United States National museum. It has been given the name "constrictus" by Curator Miller.

Every Home Can Have Moving Pictures Now



Every household can now own a moving picture gallery since the invention of the cinephone by a Frenchman. Small as an ordinary camera, the cinephone has been invented to take a short series of moving pictures in a circular form, so that any proud mother can picture the movement of baby's first efforts in walking from the kitchen stove to the coal bucket and back again.

## BUSINESS MEN OPPOSE PURCHASE OF TRINITY

Columbus, O., March 31.—Directors of the chamber of commerce adopted measures condemning the proposed purchase by the state of the old Trinity House property, on East Broad street. The directors object to Trinity House as an addition to the state executive offices because of the fact that it is out of line with the civic center idea of the beautification plan adopted several years ago by the chamber.

The directors were a unit in their action. They declared that while there are some impractical things in the beautification plan, yet the suggestion for an alignment of state buildings between High and Fourth street and Broad and State streets is its most practical feature.

## POSTOFFICE ROBBER WANTED BY SEVERAL CITIES

New York, March 31.—The police are certain that Frank Chester and Fred Cunningham, who were arrested here for cracking the safe in the postoffice of Richmond, are members of a band of yeggmen that has been operating all over the country for the last 10 years. Cunningham they identify as Eddie Fay, alias Eddy

### THIS AND THAT

Brigadier General John L. Tiernon, U. S. A., retired, died at his home in Buffalo.

It is believed the fire in a dance hall at Ockocrito, Austria, in which 380 lives were lost, was started by a young man who had been ejected from the hall.

John Parker and William Smith, murderers, escaped from the Portsmouth (Va.) jail and killed a barber named Smith who attempted to prevent their escape.

The objections of the chamber of commerce to the purchase of the Trinity building will be placed before the members of the general assembly. The state now has an option on the Trinity House property.

Alleged Horse Thief Caught. London, O., March 31.—George Ashmore, 22, of Newport, "unleashes" in the county jail, charged with stealing two horses from Oscar Dickason, his father-in-law, a well-known farmer of near Somersford.

Murder Trial Begins. Marietta, O., March 31.—The jury was completed in the second degree murder case of Clement Colter and the talesmen were taken in automobiles to the scene of the crime.

Incendiarist Fire Barn. Circleville, O., March 31.—Incendiarist again fired the barn of David Dunlap here. The barn and 60 tons of hay were destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$900. Tracks around the barn were found, and bloodhounds were at once put on the scent. They lost the trail in a woods about a mile distant.

Enthusiasm gives life to what is invisible and interest to what has no immediate action on our comfort in this world.—Mme. de Staël.

## GIRL FASTER ARRESTED

Cleveland, O., March 31.—Cora Beck, 22, was arrested after she had fasted for 45 days. In jail no permission can prevail on her to eat, although she was so weak she could not stand upright. She says she will keep an oath of fasting for two months if it kills her.

## PROBABLE MURDER

Mansfield, O., March 31.—Clad only in his night shirt and with a deep gash in the side of his head, Hugh McFall, a wealthy business man, was found lying on his back doorstep. He died on the way to a hospital and without recovering consciousness.

## PROMISES TO BE GOOD

Cleveland, O., March 31.—Lee Behrens and M. Breidenbach, officers of the Candy Men's association, indicted last April for entering into a combination in restraint of trade, walked into court. They were fined \$700 and costs each. According to Prosecutor Olds, the members of the candy trust have abandoned their organization and have promised not to renew it.

### NOMINATED FOR CONGRESS

South Bend, Ind., March 31.—When the Republican congressional convention of the Thirtieth Indiana district was called to order here today all signs pointed to the nomination of John L. Moorman to oppose Congressman Henry R. Barnhart. Mr. Moorman is a Starke county newspaper editor and was formerly Republican chairman of this district.

### NO TREATING AT THIS CLUB

East Orange, N. J., March 31.—Declining to establish a precedent to be followed by social organizations throughout the country, the City Club of East Orange will formally begin its career tomorrow by enforcing a rule prohibiting members from treating each other. Once a year, on "club night," the rule will be suspended. The club, which formerly was the Orange Club, has an attractive home in Prospect street and its membership is composed of men prominent in society.

### GEORGIA TRAVELING MEN

Savannah, Ga., March 31.—The freedom of the city has been turned over to the members of the Travelers' Protective Association, whose annual State convention is in session here. President J. P. Eckstein called the gathering to order this morning and Mayor Tiedeman welcomed the visitors. When these formalities were concluded the regular business of the convention was taken up. Business and entertainment will occupy the time of the delegates during the remainder of the week.

### SIMPLY LIFE FOR PRINCESS CHIMAY

Paris, March 31.—The former Princess Chimay, who was Clara Ward of Detroit, and whose sensational elopement with the Hungarian gypsy violinist Rigo created so great a sensation several years ago, is now living in a modest quarter of Paris. She is married to a cousin of Rigo. A former friend who came across her the other day was surprised to notice how she had changed in appearance. She has grown very stout. Of course, the famous beauty of other days is not without means, and is able to gratify her wants. She is said to have changed not only in appearance but also in habits and tastes. According to all reports she cares little or nothing now for worldly amusements, and seems quite happy and contented in the quietude of her home life.

## HOUSE PASSES UTILITIES BILL

Opponents Make Poor Showing When Final Vote Is Taken

Measure In Present Form Not What They Hoped To Get, But Is Considered Step In Right Direction And Will Pave Way For Future Legislation—Norris Employers' Liability Bill Passes House After Amended To Death By Brenner

Columbus, O., March 31.—Opponents of the Woods public utilities bill, after weeks of lobbying, were able to muster but 16 votes against the measure when it was placed upon its passage in the house. The vote was 51 to 16. The opposition was led by Brenner, Ervin and Crawford.

The bill as passed makes the railroad commission the public utilities commission of Ohio, and gives it general supervision over public utilities. One section prohibits gas companies from discontinuing service when an agreement can not be reached as to rates. Inspiration for this provision was found in the situation at Akron last summer, when the East Ohio Gas company threatened to discontinue service if the city council did not accept its terms.

The bill does not go as far as many of its supporters believed it should go, but they are agreed that it is a step in the right direction and that a future legislature will increase the powers of the commission.

In the senate the Hawkins house bill requiring all congressional candidates to be nominated under the Brennan primary law was reported back, amended so as to include delegates and alternates to national conventions, and its passage recommended. It was made a special order for this afternoon.

On motion of Senator Yount, the

senate judiciary committee, by a vote of 20 to 12, was relieved of further consideration of the Alsdorf central board of control bill for state institutions, and same was put on calendar in regular order.

The house also passed the employers' liability bill introduced by Mr. Norris of Cuyahoga, after it had been amended by Mr. Brenner of Clark, providing for the appointment of a commission to prepare and report a bill in 1911.

## WOLTER INDICTED

New York, March 31.—Albert Wolter, who is charged with the murder of Ruth Wheeler, will be arraigned today before Judge Mulqueen for the murder of Ruth Wheeler. The case will be placed on the calendar tomorrow and Wolter will be tried early in April. It required little more than half an hour for the jury to decide that he killed the 15-year-old girl and hold him for the grand jury. The jury indicted him for murder in the first degree in less than 15 minutes.

## SEEK INTERVENTION BY KILLING MISSIONARY

Liverpool, March 31.—Advises from Liberia say the native uprising is spreading and the white residents are in great danger. English residents are in particular peril, as rebel tribesmen want England to interfere, and believe they can best bring this about by killing some of the English settlers.

The Rev. B. J. Speare, foreign missionary, has been assassinated at Cape Palmas, and all foreign legations have been thrown open to refugees. The United States state department has been advised of the trouble in Liberia.

## BURNED TO DEATH

Dayton, O., March 31.—Frank Orkes returned home from work and saw his little babe in its crib, which had been converted into a funeral pyre. The cab was blazing and the baby was gasping its last breath. He grasped the little one and carried it to a nearby drug store, where it died in agony. The mother had gone on a short errand and paused at the drug store to see what caused the excitement. She fainted when she saw her dead baby in her husband's arms.

### Couldn't Stand Reprimand.

Upper Sandusky, O., March 21.—After he had been reprimanded by his teacher, George Mawrer, 13, went to the home of his foster father, only to receive another scolding. Heart sick, then the lad procured a revolver and, going out behind the barn, shot himself in the chest. He can not survive.

## SOLDIERS DIE IN WRECK

Mulheim-am-Rhein, March 31.—The North German Lloyd express train ran past danger signals and crashed into the rear of a train filled with soldiers, 21 of whom were killed outright and 100 injured.

### CENTRAL KANSAS TEACHERS

Hutchinson, Kas., March 31.—Hutchinson extended a cordial welcome today to the scores of visitors here for the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Central Kansas Teachers' Association. The convention will be in session two days and the indications are that it will be the best attended in the history of the association. The names of many leading educators are found on the program, among them being Dr. A. E. Winship of Boston, Professor Price of the University of Kansas, Montaville Flowers of Cincinnati, and Dr. George H. Bradford, president of Epworth University at Oklahoma City.